

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
10th March 2021

This was a virtual meeting held by Zoom from County hall.

Unfortunately due to technical issues, I was unable to join the meeting at the start however, managed to access the meeting 45 minutes later.

Members were informed that - as of 10/03/2021 - 14 patients were in Intensive care - 8 of which were Covid related.

The long term plan was next on the agenda and when questioned, the officer was able to tell us that elective surgery was to be returned and developed at the Alexander Hospital and that a new CT scanner has been installed. I queried whether there were any plans for the maternity ward and cancer garden to be returned to the Alexander Hospital.

The Care Quality Commission had visited and undertaken an unannounced inspection of the Maternity unit at The Worcester Royal Hospital, following a whistle blower report. It was reported that there were staff shortages and support plus assurance for the mothers and families were the major findings. The positives were - an excellent multi-professional team, a highly motivated staff with no safety concerns. A senior officer explained to the committee what measures had already been carried out and any outstanding issues that were still to be resolved.

The new Integrated Care System was next on the agenda. It was confirmed that the CCG will be replaced by a more representative Core Board helped by a Health and Care partnership. The local authorities will be a partner in this new approach of a joined up system. There will be a new process for procurement going forward which was hoped would make it easier. It is anticipated that this new arrangement will be in place by April 2022.

As this is the last meeting of this administration the Chair thanked a few members for their input as they were not standing at the elections and wished every one well.